JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29403-5107
and the
S.C. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
OFFICE OF OCEAN AND COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 400
Charleston, South Carolina 29405

REGULATORY DIVISION Refer to: P/N # 2003-1N-043-P 28 February 2003

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), and the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (48-39-10 et.seq.) an application has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control by

MR. TOWNSEND P. CLARKSON KIAWAH RIVER PLANTATION, LP KIAWAH RESORT ASSOCIATES, LP C/O MR. ROBERT FOLK 4964 WHITE HALL ROAD GREEN POND, SOUTH CAROLINA 29446

for a permit to excavate and place fill material in waters of the United States adjacent to an

UNNAMED TRIBUTARY OF THE KIAWAH RIVER

at 2602 Mullet Hall Road, Johns Island, South Carolina in Charleston County (Latitude – 32.63035 N, Longitude – 80.10587 E).

In order to give all interested parties an opportunity to express their views

NOTICE

is hereby given that written statements regarding the proposed work will be received by both of the above mentioned offices until

12 O'CLOCK NOON, MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2003

from those interested in the activity and whose interests may be affected by the proposed work.

The proposed work consists of constructing improvements to 7 existing tidal impoundments that total approximately 120 acres. According to the applicant, these impoundments experience "fish kills" during the late summer because of poor water quality conditions and low dissolved oxygen levels. The applicant plans to excavate 16,811 linear feet of new drainage canals within the existing impoundments. In addition, the applicant plans to excavate 465 linear feet of new drainage canals through the tidal marsh. The excavation of the proposed drainage canals will impact a total of 5.0 acres of waters of the United States.

REGULATORY DIVISION Refer to: P/N # 2003-1N-043-P

Each of the new drainage canals will be excavated to a depth of –1.0 MSL in order to allow for tidal flow through the impoundments on a regular basis. In addition, the applicant has proposed to install 3 new wooden rice field trunks and 8 new wooden spillway boxes. The bottom elevation of these structures will also be at a height of –1.0 MSL. The purpose of the excavation and installing the new rice field trunks and new spillway boxes is to provide a pathway for tidal flow through the existing impoundments to facilitate the exchange of water.

The applicant has not specified the method of excavation that will be used to construct the new drainage canals. However, they have stated that there will be no stockpiling of material within waters of the United States and that all excavated material will be disposed in uplands. The applicant has proposed to mitigate for impacts associated with the excavation of tidal marsh by filling in 9 existing potholes that are located in the high marsh adjacent to the referenced property. The applicant plans to place fill material in 0.26 acres of waters of the United States to reestablish natural ground elevations in order to enhance the natural regeneration of native species. According to the applicant, the purpose of the proposed work is to increase circulation of tidal water within the existing impoundments and to alleviate poor water quality conditions.

NOTE: Plans depicting the work described in this notice are available and will be provided, upon receipt of a written request, to anyone that is interested in obtaining a copy of the plans for the specific project. The request must identify the project of interest by public notice number and a self-addressed stamped envelope must also be provided for mailing the drawings to you. Your request for drawings should be addressed to the

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: REGULATORY DIVISION 69A Hagood Avenue Charleston, South Carolina 29403-5107

The District Engineer has concluded that the discharges associated with this project, both direct and indirect, should be reviewed by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in accordance with provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. As such, this notice constitutes a request, on behalf of the applicant, for certification that this project will comply with applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. The work shown on this application must also be certified as consistent with applicable provisions the Coastal Zone Management Program (15 CFR 930). The District Engineer will not process this application to a conclusion until such certifications are received. The applicant is hereby advised that supplemental information may be required by the State to facilitate the review.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Implementation of the proposed project would impact 5.0 acres of estuarine substrates and emergent wetlands utilized by various life stages of species comprising the red drum, shrimp, and snapper-grouper management complexes. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial individual or cumulative adverse impact on EFH or fisheries managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

Pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended), the District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus) a Federally threatened species is present in the vicinity of the project. However, it has been determined that the project is not likely to adversely affect this species and will not result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated or proposed critical habitat. This public

REGULATORY DIVISION Refer to: P/N # 2003-1N-043-P

notice serves as a request for written concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service on this determination.

The District Engineer has consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places for the presence or absence of registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein, and this worksite is not included as a registered property or property listed as being eligible for inclusion in the Register. Consultation of the National Register constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. Presently unknown archaeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the requested permit.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

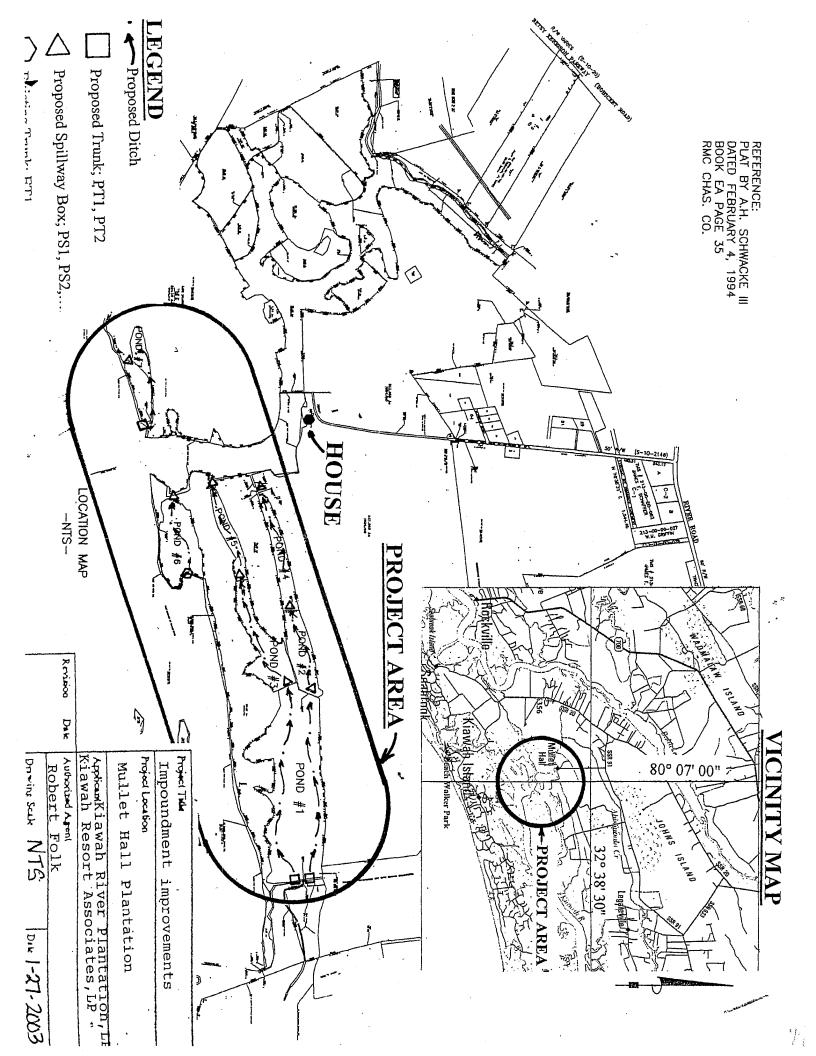
The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest and will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act and, as appropriate, the criteria established under authority of Section 102 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest. In cases of conflicting property rights, the Corps of Engineers cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

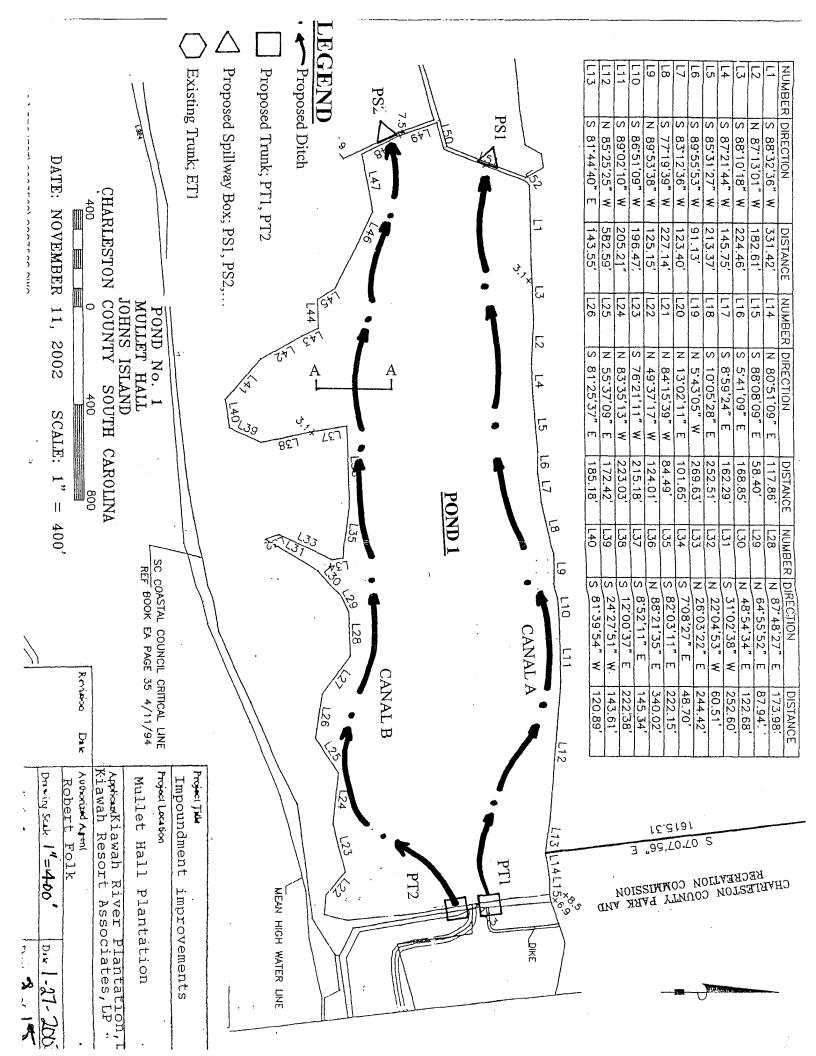
The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this project. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

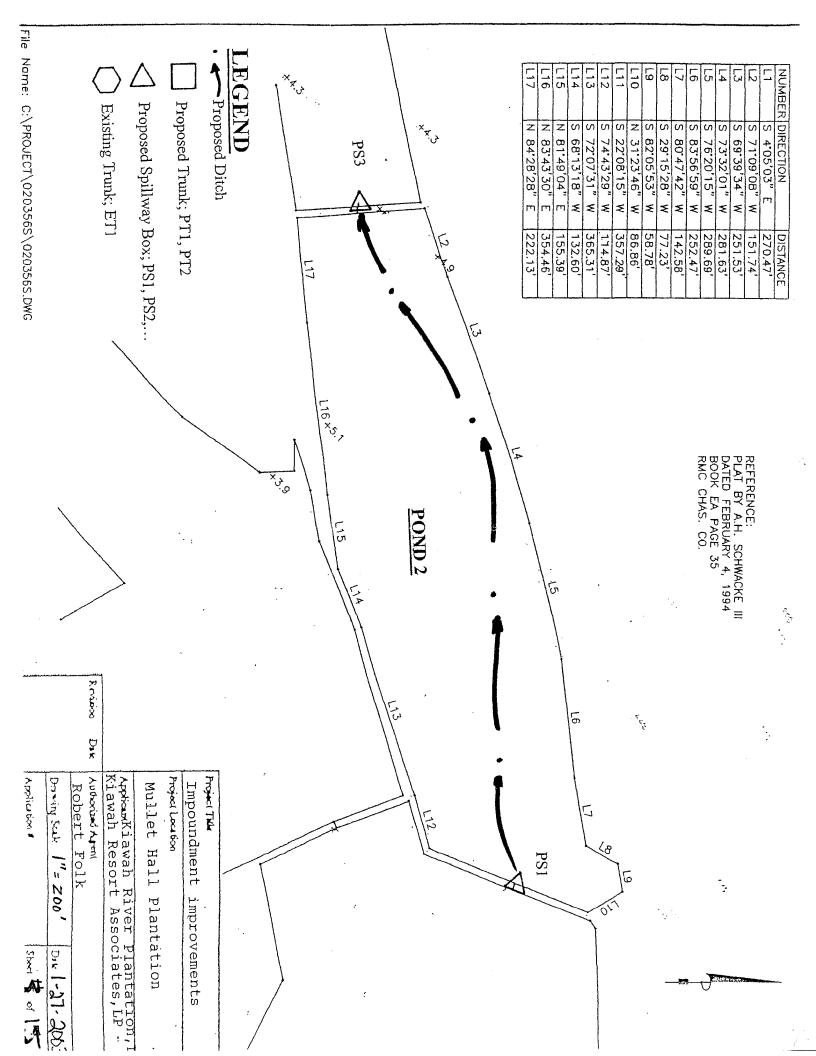
If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact me at 843-329-8044 or toll free at 1-866-329-8187.

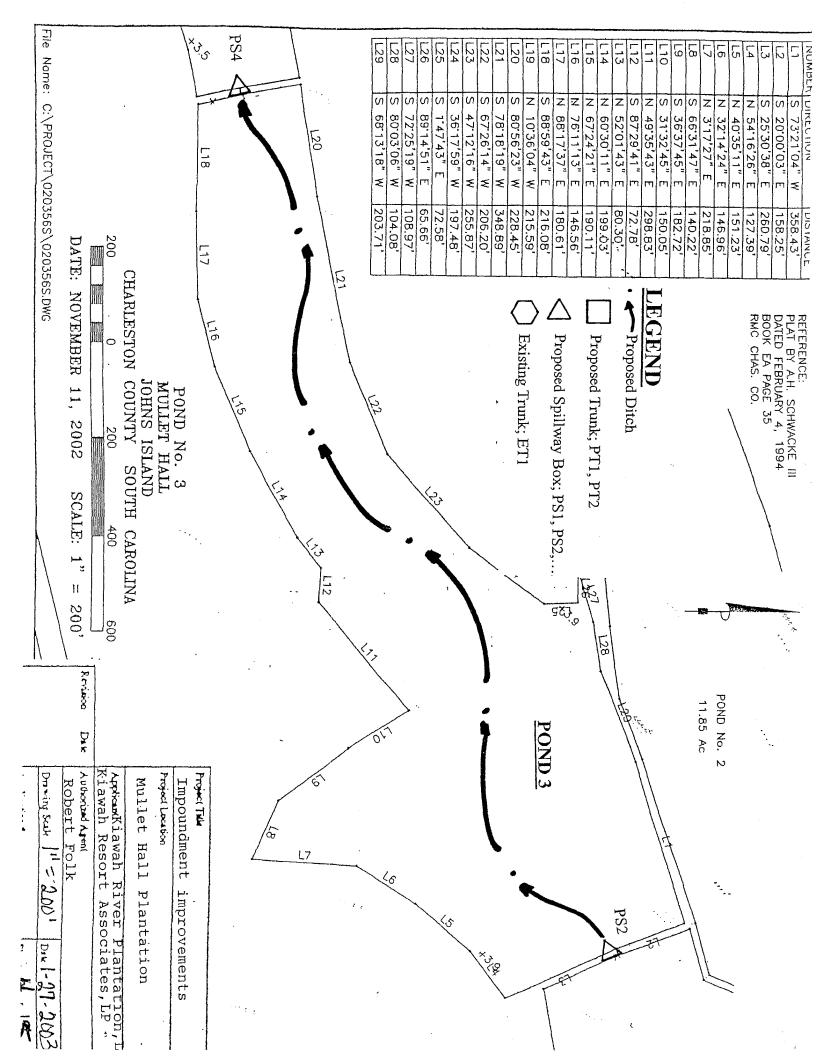
Nathaniel Ball Project Manager Regulatory Division

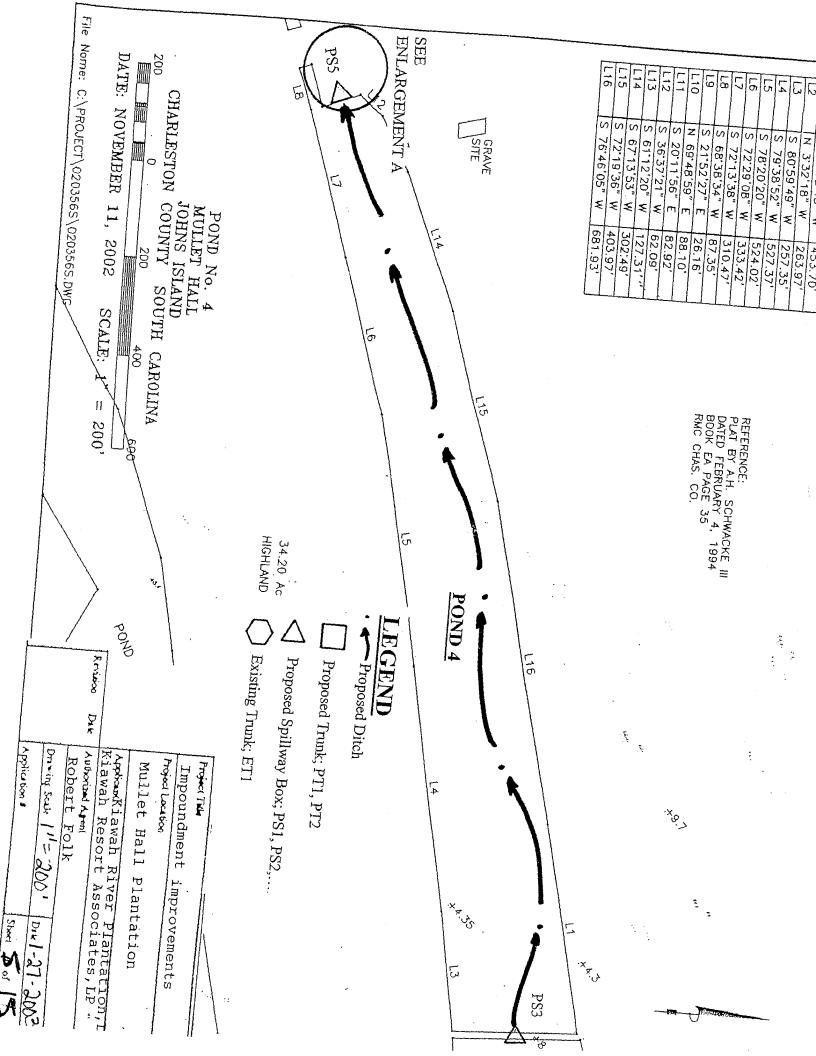
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

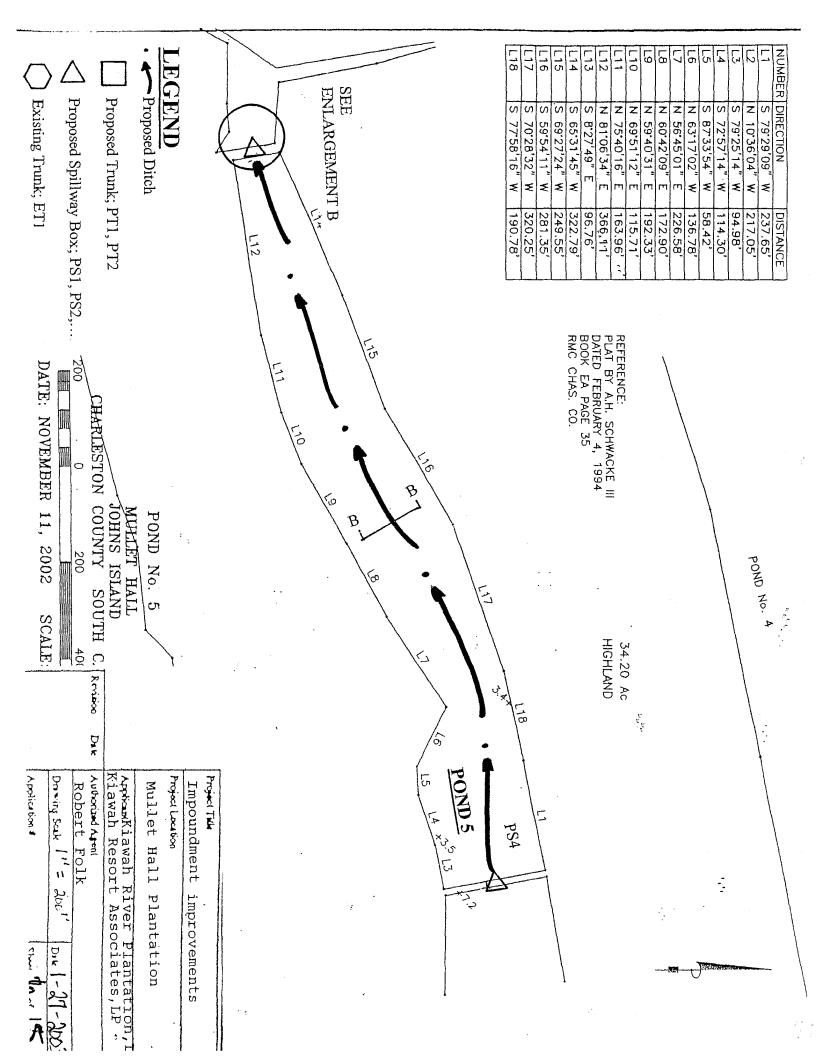


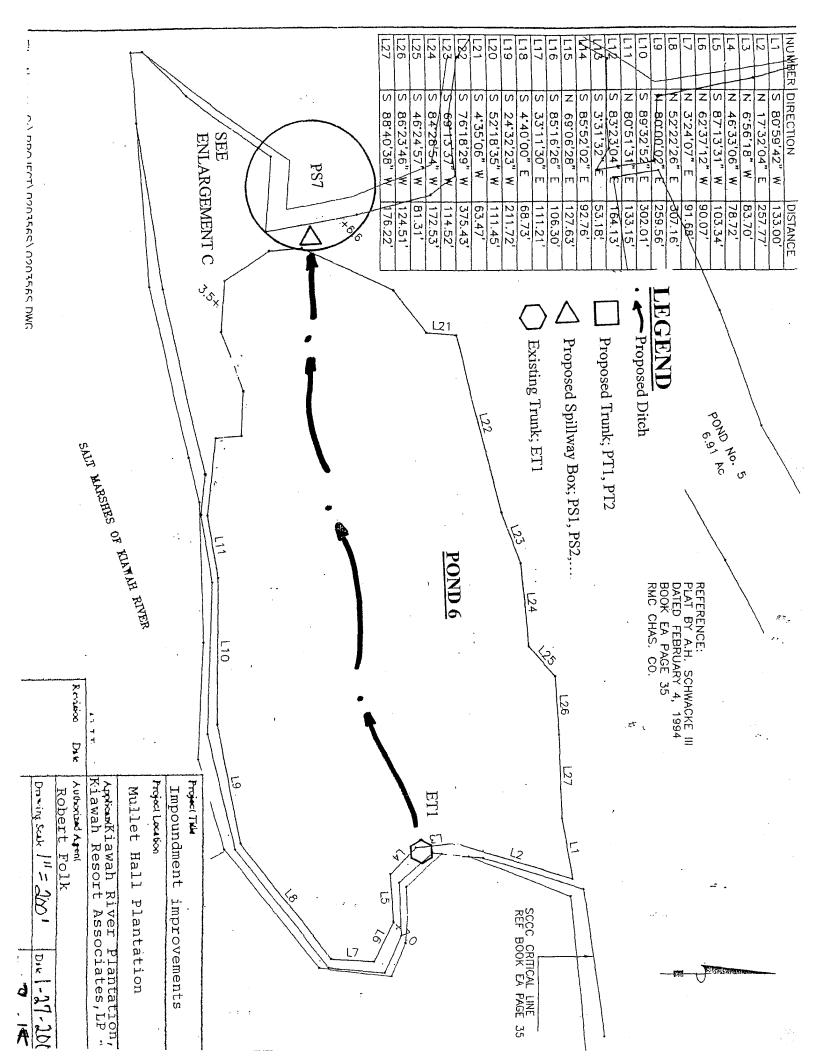


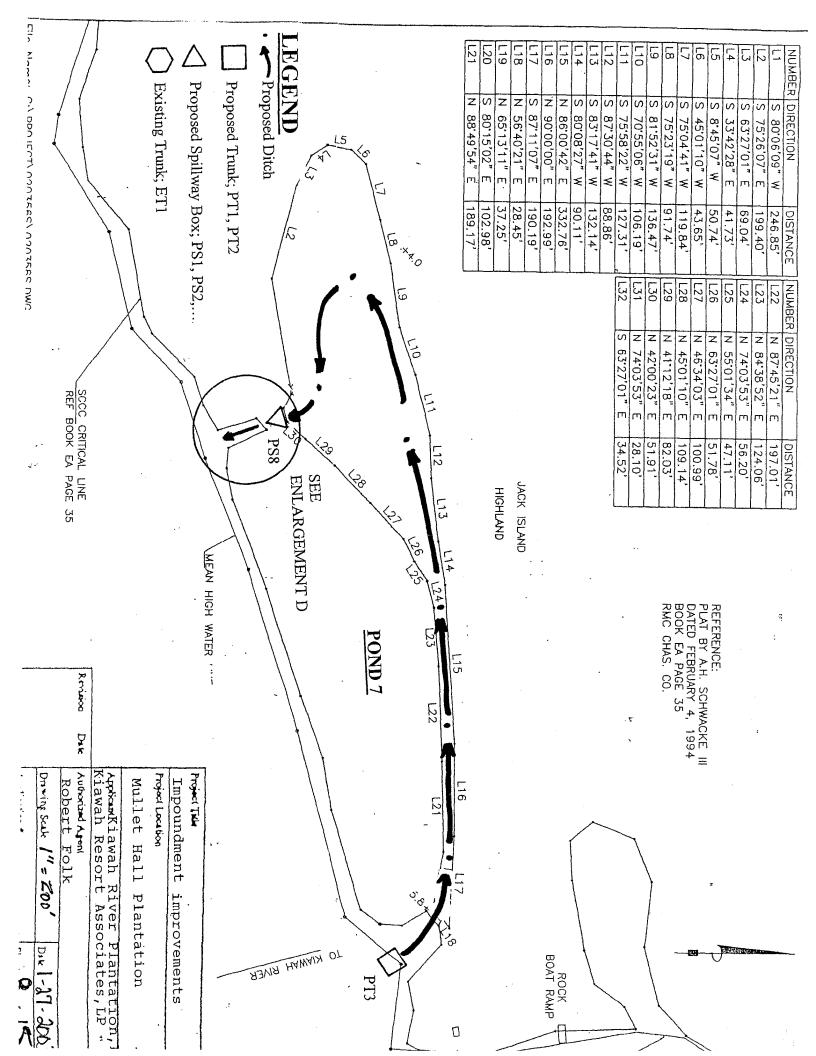


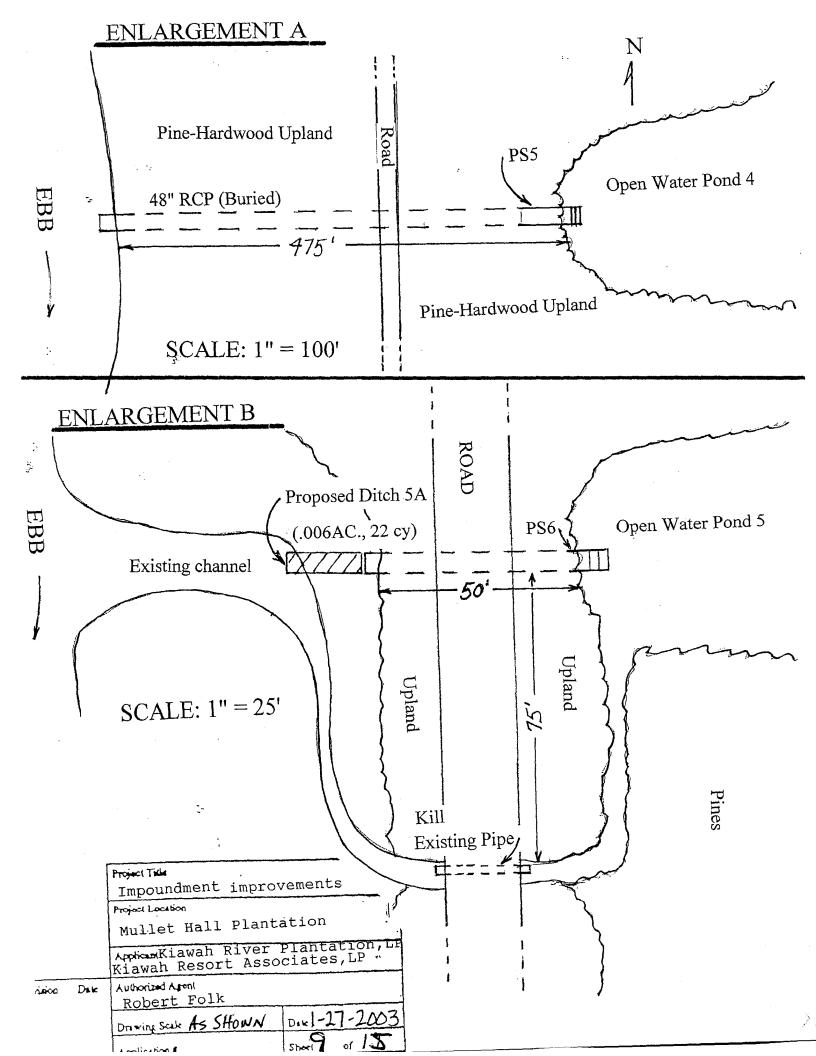


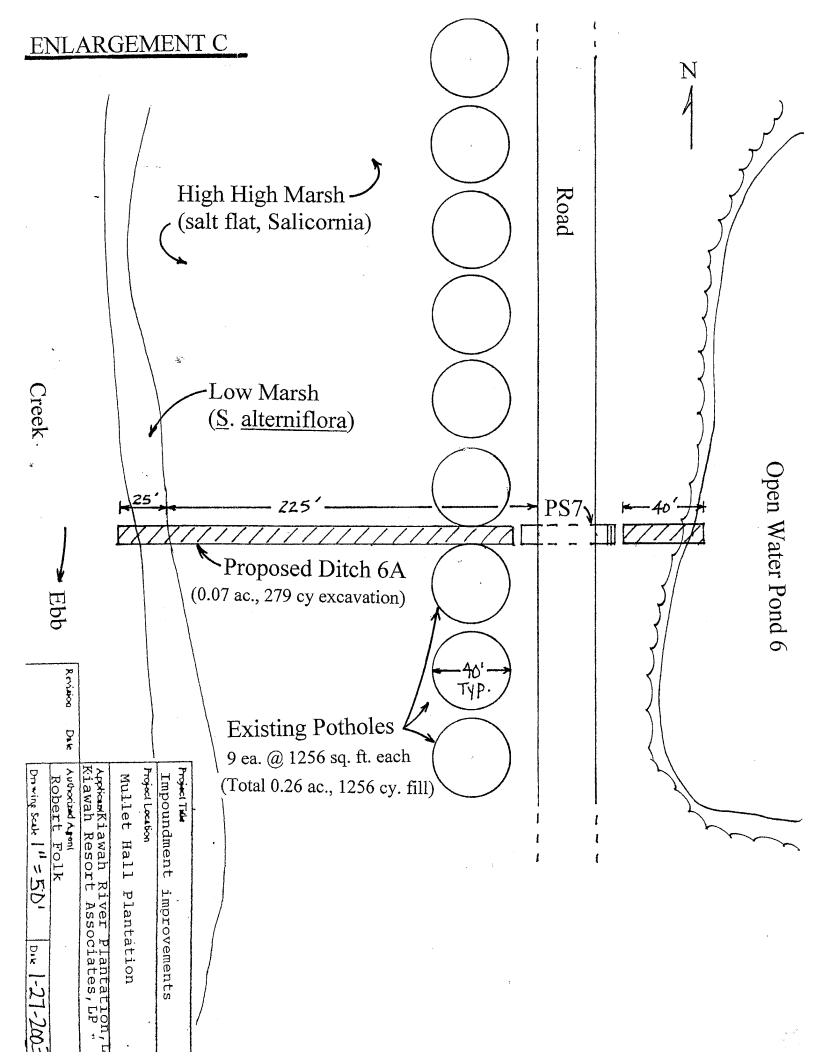


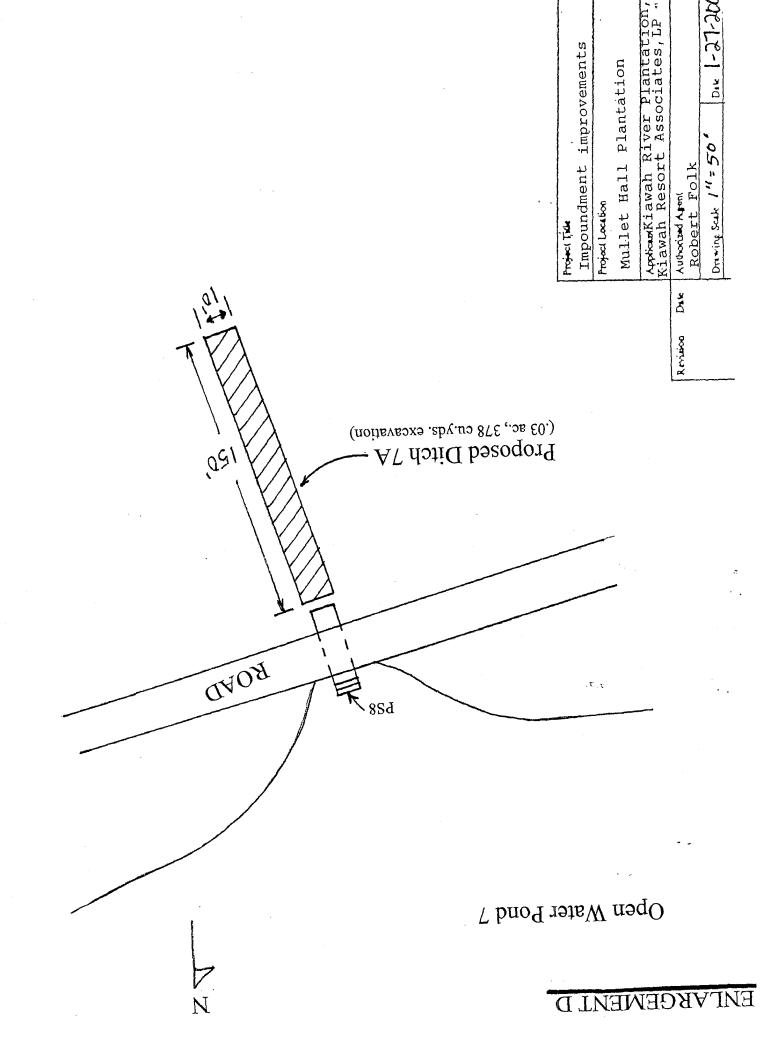








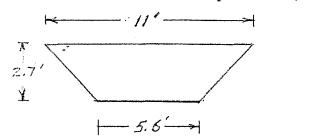




DITCH CROSS SECTIONS

ECTION A-A

Minimum Ditch Depth - Pond 1, Canal B

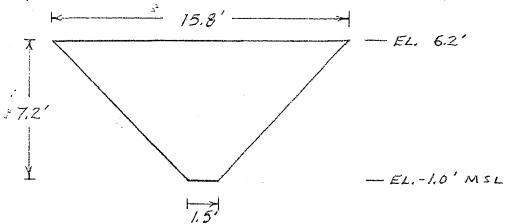


- EL. 1.7'

- EL. -1.0' MSL

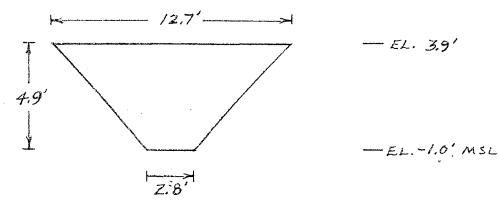
ECTION B-B

Maximum Ditch Depth - Pond 5



YPICAL SECTION

Average Ditch Depth



| | : | ProjectTille Impoundment improv | ements |
|----------|------|---|--------------------------------|
| | | Project Location | |
| | | Mullet Hall Planta | tion . |
| | | Applicate Kiawah River F Kiawah Resort Assoc | Plantation, LP ciates, LP " |
| Revision | Dire | Authorized Aront Robert Folk | |
| | | Drawing Scale 1"=5" | D.W-27-2003 |

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SUMMARY OF DITCH SPECIFICATIONS & IMPACTS DITCH

| SPECIFICATIONS | 1A | 1B | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5A | 6 | 6A | 7 | 7 A | TOTAL/AVE. |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------------|------------|
| Length (L.F.) | 3080 | 3480 | 1431 | 2160 | 1998 | 1600 | 25 | 1280 | 290 | 1782 | 150 | 17,276 |
| Top width (Ave.ft.) | 11 | 11 | 10.7 | 13.5 | 14.6 | 15.8 | 10 | 11.9 | 10 | 15.2 | 10 | 12.7 |
| Bottom width (Ave. ft.) | 4.4 | 5.6 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 2 | 1.5 | 1 | 1.5 | 1 | 2.8 |
| Depth (Ave. ft.) | 3.3 | 2.7 | 4.6 | 6.0 | 6.5 | 7.2 | 4 | 5.2 | 5.2 | 6.8 | 6.8 | 4.9 |
| Acreage (Acres) | .78 | .88 | .35 | .67 | .67 | .58 | .006 | .35 | .07 | .62 | .03 | 5.006 |
| Volume (Cu. yds.) | 2900 | 2900 | 1500 | 3600 | 3900 | 3700 | 22 | 1650 | 279 | 3700 | 378 | 24,529 |

IMPOUNDMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN

The brackish impoundments on Mullet Hall Plantation have no flow-through capability, i.e., water enters and exits through one water control structure. Consequently, during the late summer, these impoundments have experienced fish kills due to low dissolved oxygen levels. Although called a "fish kill", other species suffer the consequences of inadequate oxygen levels in the water; the multitude of dead fish are simply the most noticeable victims.

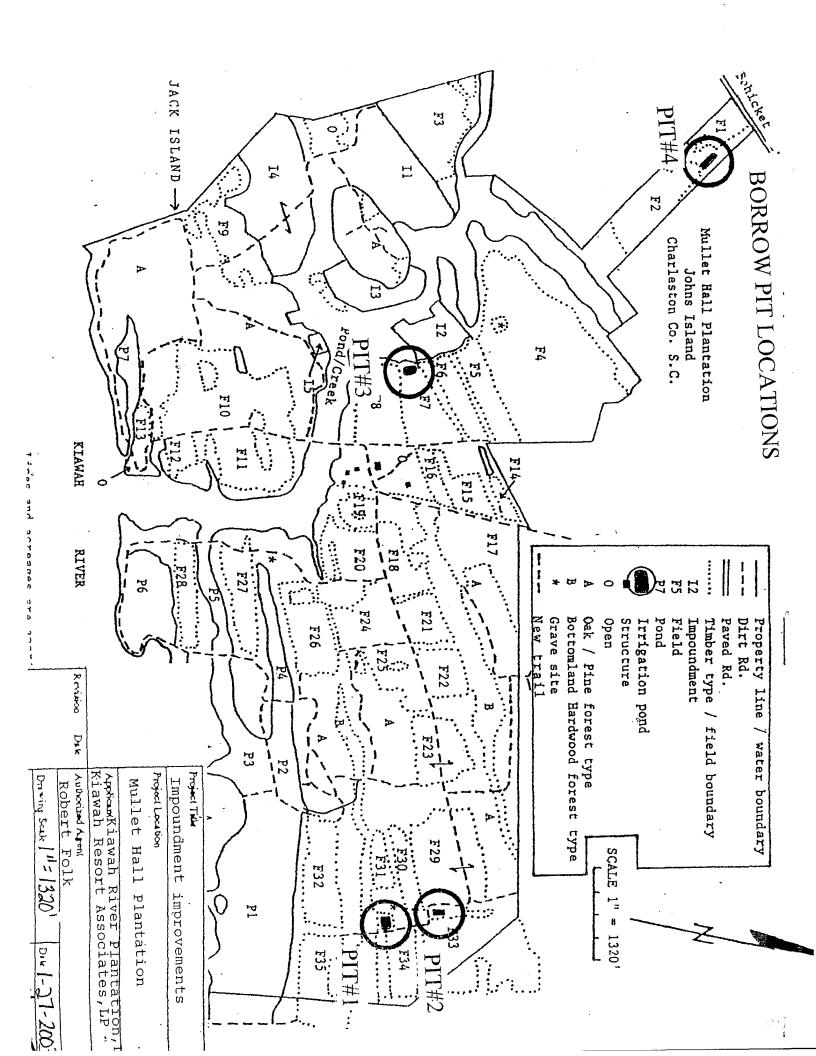
In an attempt to rectify this poor water quality situation, the owners have asked that an improved design be devised for water management within the ponds. In response, Folk Land Management, Inc. has designed the proposed improvements.

The objective is to enhance water flow through the ponds by installing larger and more functional water control structures (rice field trunks and wooden spillway boxes) and by digging ditches that will facilitate water flow through the ponds. The ditches are designed to be able to move water even on average tides during the month. All spoil from the ditches will be placed in existing or on high ground.

In addition to being able to move water through the ponds routinely, the water levels will be manipulated regularly to enhance feeding opportunities for wading and shore birds. The ditch system and improved water control structures will allow periodic water movement that will benefit the fishery within the pond significantly. Oxygen levels will be maintained and fish kills should be able to be avoided.

In summary, rather than the dead end ponds that now exist throughout Mullet Hall Plantation, the proposed improvements will create a flow through system that will enhance water quality, and consequently, the environment for many fish and wildlife species. There will be significant ecological benefits within the impoundments and the adjacent estuary will not continue to be subjected to periodic dumping of poor quality water and dead marine organisms.

| | | | _ |
|----------|------|--|---|
| | • | Project Title | |
| | | Impoundment improvements | |
| | | Project Location | |
| | • | Mullet Hall Plantation . | |
| | | AppkamKiawah River Plantation,L Kiawah Resort Associates,LP " | F |
| Reniaion | Date | Authorized Agent Robert Folk | _ |
| | | Driving Scale Dik -27-2003 | _ |
| | | | |



11. The overall project consists of water control structure installation and replacement with these structures being connected with new ditches and filling 4 isolated freshwater wetlands.

Specifically:

Project #1 consists of installing 3 wooden rice field trunks and 8 wooden spillway boxes in brackish ponds on Mullet Hall Plantation. Because of their greater capacity and improved water management capabilities as compared to the existing metal flashboard risers, water movement through the ponds will be significantly improved.

Project #2 consists if digging 17,276 linear feet (5.006 acres, 24,529 cu. yds.) of ditches to facilitate water movement through the ponds. Currently, water does not flow through the ponds, but rather, it enters and exists through the same water control structure. The proposed ditches will allow water circulation on average tides throughout the month. A summary of ditch specifications and impacts is on page 14 of 17.

As mitigation for digging 465 linear feet (.106 ac., 679 cu. yds.) of ditches outside the ponds to connect new water control structures to the adjacent creeks, it is proposed that 9 existing potholes in the high marsh be filled (0.26 ac., 1256 cu. yds.) to reestablish natural ground elevations, and consequently, revegatation by native species.

12. The overall project purpose is to improve water circulation and quality, and thereby, to enhance the aquatic habitat within the brackish ponds on Mullet Hall Plantation. This can be accomplished only by improving water control structures and water movement through the ponds; therefore, the new, larger, and more efficient rice field trunks and wooden spillway boxes are proposed. To allow these structures to function to their capacity and to provide water circulation, a series of ditches is proposed to connect them to the adjacent creeks. Filling of the isolated wetland borrow pits is intended to create uplands and to dispose of spoil from the ditches.

| | | Project Title . | |
|----------|-----|--|--------|
| | | Impoundment improvements | |
| | | Project Location | • |
| | | Mullet Hall Plantation | |
| | | Applicate Kiawah River Plantati Kiawah Resort Associates, L | on, Li |
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| | | | |

Drawing Scale

Dik -27-2005